

"The exposure of diplomatic trickery, cheating and knavery is one of the most important functions of Socialist political agitation."—Leon Trotsky.

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SACCO-VANZETTI CASE IN COURT.

Jury Selected From Hundreds of Talesmen.

Nicola Sacco and Bartholomew Vanzetti, radical labor unionists and leaders, charged with murder are now on trial at Dedham, Mass.

The selection of the jury began on May 31 and for five days an examination of hundreds of talesmen proceeded before the prosecution and the defense were able to pick 12 men who will decide the fates of the two men.

The accused are jointly charged with the murder on April 15, 1920 of Frederick A. Parmenter, paymaster of the Slater and Merrill Shoe Company at Braintree, Mass. and Alessandro Berdelli, a special officer.

The trials began in a sensational hunt for juries, several hundred men being examined in the search for 12 men fit for the responsibility of jury duty. The wide publicity given the case, which is comparable to the Mooney Case in the appearance of a frame-up, being responsible for great prejudice in the minds of practically all inhabitants of that section. The city of Dedham and all Norfolk County were scoured for talesmen when the first panel of 125 men was exhausted. Talesmen were taken from their homes and work for examination for duty. A bride groom was taken from his wedding breakfast. Many were excused on account of prejudice in the case and others on account of being opposed to capital punishment.

Defense Counsel Strong.

The defendants have a strong legal counsel at their service. They are: William J. Callahan, Fred H. Moore, John A. Lyons, John W. McAnarney and J. J. McAnarney. Moore is accounted one of the best labor attorneys in the United States, having served in that capacity in many notable labor cases, the "Everett Massacre" of the I. W. W. at Everett, Washington, several years ago, being one of his most successful fights.

It is asserted that the defense will not only prove their innocence in the murders but will be able to throw heavy shadows of suspicion of "framing" them for the electric chair, upon their accusers. Sacco and Vanzetti have in the past been active in several labor strikes and were known to the authorities as active in the revolutionary movement. Their activities in the labor movement is given as the reasons for the charges against them, in the absence of the real murderers ever being located. The Civil Liberties Union of New York is active in raising money for the defense of the two accused men.

Since the trial opened the jury has been taken on a sight seeing tour of the scenes of the murder. The defendants waived their legal right to accompany the party, having already been carried over the ground in the "third degree" thru which they were put by the police after their arrest.

Gale Loses Fight On Habeas Corpus

Linn A. E. Gale, former editor and publisher of Gale's Magazine, a communist monthly magazine, published at Mexico City, Mexico, has lost his fight on an application for a writ of habeas corpus to transfer his case from the military to the civil courts.

Judge West, of San Antonio, Texas, before whom the hearing was held, ruled that evidence tended to show that the Albany, New York deaft board had mailed a notice of induction into the army to Gale on March 28, 1918, and that Gale had received proper notice.

He also held that according to the evidence, Gale was, to all intents, a soldier after April 4, 1918, and therefore subject to military laws, and that evidence showed he willfully absented himself from the United States to escape the draft.

Gale was arrested at Laredo in April, after he had been expelled from Mexico by President Obregon. The Toller correspondent states that Gale and his attorney, Samuel Castleton of Atlanta, Ga., made a strong fight for the writ. It is that Gale will now be tried by court martial for desertion. His defense is being backed by friends in this country and by workers' organizations in Mexico where he has many friends.

Cleveland Building Strike Getting Settled.

General Wage Cut Basis of Settlement. Closed Shop Principle Retained.

The strike of the Cleveland building trades which has been on since May 1 is getting settled after a fashion. A general wage cut approximating 17 per cent with the retention of the closed shop principle for the unions forms the general basis upon which workers in the 20 crafts are returning to work.

After several weeks of sparring for advantage an arbitration board composed of representatives of the employers, the unions and that fictitious element "the public", was formed to consider all matters at issue. It naturally followed that a general and decisive wage cut was seen as the only possible way out.

While the board of arbitration has been the general supervisor of negotiations for settlement, several unions have not waived their rights to negotiate for themselves at the same time. The result is that some unions are still, even with one foot slipping into the mire of reduced wages, making a stand for some of the hard won fruits of past conquests.

Building laborers have thrown up the sponge in the middle of the first week's resumption of work after trying to survive on a wage of 57¢ and 60 cents an hour. Many jobs were struck because of the dissatisfaction on this account. The question of remaining at work if union laborers failed to show up last Monday morning, was a question to Bricklayers when they met to consider the arbitration award.

A Little Talk With Gompers

BEFORE THE A. F. OF L. CONVENTION AT HIS HEADQUARTERS, ROOM 567 ALBANY HOTEL, DENVER, COLORADO.

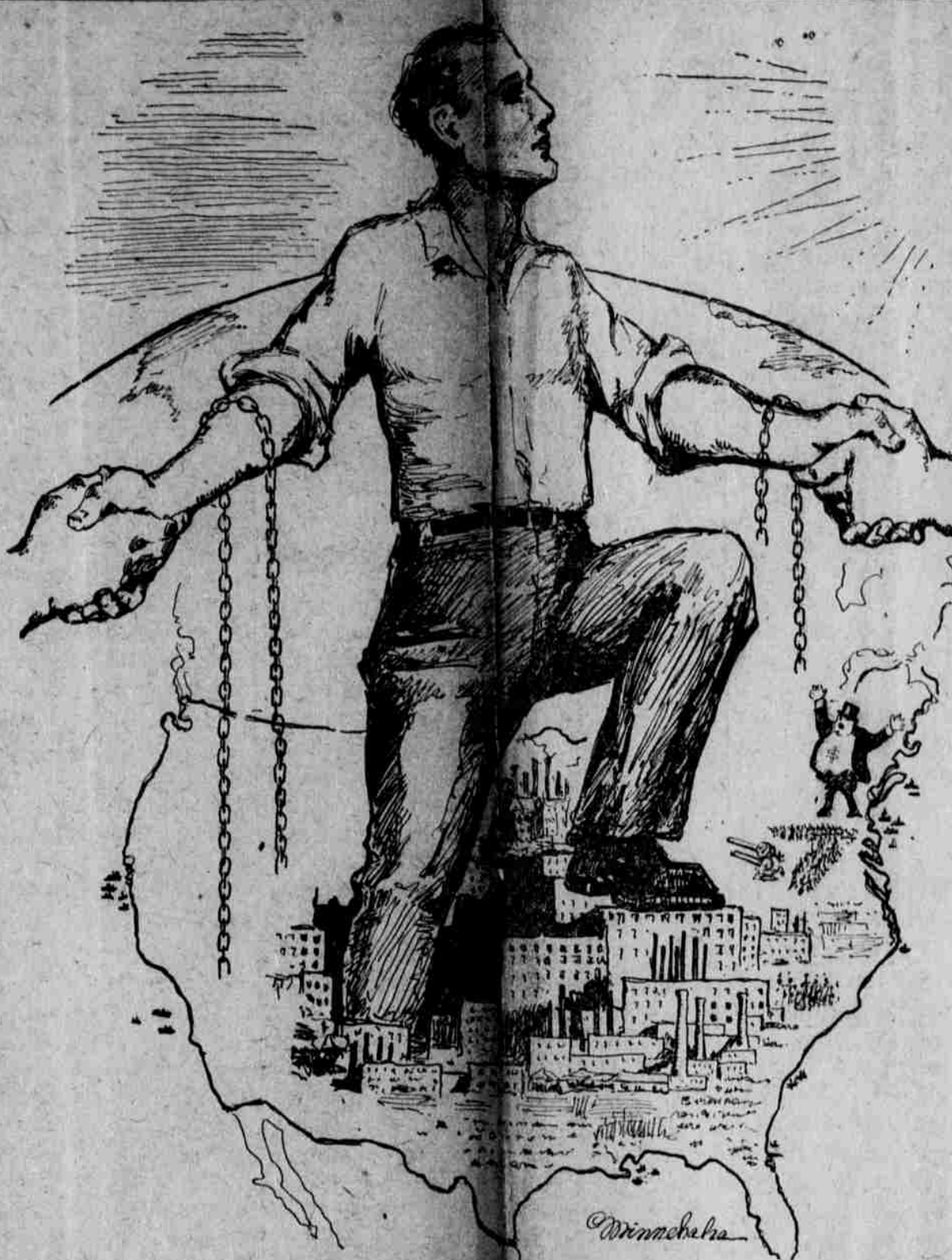
By M. D. Litman, Secretary Workers' Defense Union, Denver, Colorado.

Shakespeare says there is nothing in a name, and surely there is much less in a number; but I shall never forget Room 567 Albany Hotel, Denver, Colorado. Ever since I have been a "red" and for some time a member of the A. F. of L., I have heard and talked so much of Gompers and his misleadership, that when I passed the Albany Hotel during lunch hour four days before the A. F. of L. convention, an unconquerable desire to see Sammy at his headquarters gripped me and as if some automaton would carry me off, I suddenly found myself going up the elevator to the fifth floor. A sign on the door, below the room number 567, read as follows: Office of the President of the American Federation of Labor.

A sort of a bashful feeling and a quickening of my pulse came over me. I opened the door and found myself inside of the Sanctum-Sanctorum of the A. F. of L. Generalissimo and Chief Tactician. The busy office, with bustling secretaries and messengers running back and forth with the Final Ukaz to the labor front, failed to materialize. I was rather surprised at the emptiness of the room. In the distance near a window sat a well-dressed man of about forty, who looked like an oil-stock salesman and to the right was an open door where I could see a short gray-haired, pompous little fellow talking to a woman dressed in dark. "It is Sammy himself!" was the quick thought that ran through my mind. Yes, Sammy himself, but not by himself anymore. He is winding up his honeymoon.

Approaching the man near the window, I asked him if he was one of the A. F. of L. officials and he said yes. I introduced myself as the Secretary of the Workers' Defense Union of Denver, that defended last year's raid victims and he looked at me as if he did not know there was such an organization in existence, and I addressed him as follows:

"Will you please answer this question: Is it right for the A. F. of L. to make this hotel its convention headquarters, in view of the fact that only a month ago Robert Minor, who spoke against the Open Shop in Denver, was not allowed to lecture in the Albany Hotel Ball Room by the management, because they were against the topic, and the management returned the money paid for the use of the hall to the committee?" The man I addressed told me that I must be



UP FROM SLAVERY TO POWER!

for a beany. The clock showed it was 1:15. "Gee, I must have been there only 15 minutes," it seemed like hours. With great reluctance I told the waitress that I just had a "Little Talk with Gompers." "Who is Gompers?" she asked with a surprised look on her face.

The City of Denver is giving the A. F. of L. a cold reception. They refused to decorate the streets with American flags unless the A. F. of L. stood the cost, they did not donate the Municipal Auditorium, as is sometimes done for many important conventions. No official welcome by the City of Denver. The delegates are slipping into town like prodigal sons. No one officially will dare to welcome the A. F. of L. in view of the Open Shop fight carried on by the Civic and Commercial Association. The press is busy with the Pueblo blood and seems to side-track the convention.

Some of the big firms are displaying cards in their windows to the effect that "money spent here will not be used to the detriment of labor." They are the very individuals that support the Commercial Associations. Rejoice you workers and toilers, your interests are in safe hands.

Court Rules Against Alexander Howat

The State Supreme Court of Kansas in a sweeping decision on June 11, upheld the Kansas Industrial Court law in affirming the decision of the Crawford County district court sentencing Alexander Howat, miners' leader, to one year in jail.

Howat was indicted several months ago for calling a mine strike against the ruling of the Industrial Court. He was tried, found guilty and sentenced to one year in prison. His appeal to the highest state court was based upon eight issues involving the constitutionality of the Industrial Court. The law was held valid on all of the eight issues raised.

Howat is held in great esteem by the coal miners of Kansas, of which district he is president. Many rank and file strikes have been pulled by the miners to show their solidarity with their chief. It is not expected that the Supreme Court's decision will have any mollifying effect upon the temper of the militant miners.

In the lobby of the hotel, one could see a hundred or more Creatures that once were workers, they looked like shrewd politicians with contorted faces and smooth hands. They were the deputies and the henchmen that are coached and primed to re-elect Sammy. Dejected in spirit I reached the street and made a dash

THE DUTIES OF A COMMUNIST IN RUSSIA.

GREAT DANGERS, GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES, HARD WORK AND AN IRON DISCIPLINE MAKE THE LIFE OF THE RULING PARTY ANYTHING BUT AN EASY ONE.

By M. Olgin.—Translated by S. Smith.
From "Jewish Daily Forward", New York.

A communist in Russia is a man who must face reality and act. Upon him depends everything. He is responsible for everything. He must consider everything. He must set a good example. He must lead.

A Communist is a man who takes upon himself the task of carrying through the revolution to its very end, and of establishing socialism. He must never say no. He must always forge ahead. He must live up to the decisions of the Soviets, live up to the demands of the Communist Party. He must fear nothing. He must never stop because of difficulties in the way. He has undertaken the task and he must not complain.

A Communist is a fighter. All the Communists of a city are united in one military organization, called "a division with a special end in view." All the members of this organization must know how to use a rifle and machine gun. If they do not know they take lessons several times a week. I knew Communists who on three mornings a week had to rise at six o'clock and go for military training, to learn to march and shoot. I saw Communists who were tired, exhausted, hungry, but they attended for military training. What is it all for? So that they may be able to defend the city in time of an insurrection. Every Communist of every city is connected with headquarters which serve as a mobilizing point. If he receives a call by telephone or courier, he must immediately report to headquarters with his gun. Thus all the Communists of the City of Moscow can be mobilized within an hour. It would only take half an hour to mobilize the Communists of a smaller city. In the event of a counter-revolutionary movement in a city, the Communists will be the first to fight and the first to die. This is not an empty phrase with them.

Communists to the Front. I happened to be in the city of Nizni Novograd at a time when there was a feeling of restlessness among the military units there. It did not come to anything serious, but there was the fear that there might be an uprising. The Communists were called out. Several hundred of them assembled in the building of the Executive Committee of the Communists and remained there for three days and

Packers Still Cry 'Down With Wages'

(By The Federated Press.)

Chicago.—Reductions in the pay of approximately 62,000 packing-house workers are asked by the "Big Five" in an application filed with Federal Judge Samuel Alschuler, impartial arbitrator agreed upon by the employers and workers in the industry during the wartime disputes. The packers request permission to cut wages in the stockyards 5 cents an hour, effective June 19, together with a reduction in the piecework scale equivalent to the hour rate. The petition states that changed economic conditions have resulted in giving labor an "inordinate portion of what it is producing."

Dennis Lane, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, intimated that he believed the packers are actuated by other motives than their announced desire to aid the farmer or provide jobs for the jobless. He is of the opinion the packers are trying to force a strike with the object of smashing the unions with the army of unemployed.

The agreement under which the men are working at present was signed in Washington, March 23, at a meeting between the government and the packers and the unions, got together at the instance of Lane at a time when, with big wage cuts threatened, a nation-wide strike seemed imminent. As it was hourly wages, under that agreement, were cut 8¢ and the piecework scale 12½ per cent. At that time it was not expected that further action by the packers towards lower wages would be taken until early in August, a month before the present agreement expires.

The reduction, if it goes through, would mean a saving to the "Big Five" of \$6,500,000 a year.

5¢ AN HOUR, WAGE OF AMERICAN FARMER.

BANCRUPTCY INEVITABLE
LOT OF RURAL PRODUCERS.

The American Farmer is worse off than any peasant of Europe.

He is working for 5¢ an hour—and he feeds this country and a great part of the world. Bankruptcy stares him in the face.

This is the wage American farmers of the mid-continental regions of the U. S. are receiving in this year of 1921, says Senator Norris.

Senator Norris is sponsoring a bill for farmers' relief. He calls it the Farmers Financing Corporation bill. It provides for the formation of a corporation composed of the Secretary of Agriculture and four others as directors. \$100,000,000 is to be set aside from government funds to finance exports of cotton, wheat and other farm products. It is expected to finance itself once it is set going.

Unless some means are taken for a radical change in the world marketing of American farm products, the American farmer will be reduced to the lowest position of any wealth producer in the country. With debts to pay on invested capital, in land, implements, stock and farm equipment, says the Senator, virtual impoverishment on an unprecedented scale will be his lot.

Organized Greed Drives Thousands to Starve.

Half Million in New England at
Hunger Point.

(By The Federated Press,
N. Y. Bureau).

New Haven, Conn.—One hundred thousand families in Connecticut are in desperate straits for lack of work and their families literally will be facing starvation if unemployment conditions do not improve, according to L. N. Orburn, secretary of the Connecticut State Federation of Labor, Bridgeport, Waterbury and New Haven are the worst sufferers.

It is in this state that the organized employing and financial interests just now are centering their drive against unionism, and the campaign is being directed from this city. The local Chamber of Commerce has joined forces with the "open shop" council of employers, and the tactics they have adopted have become so offensive that Patrick F. O'Meara, president of the State Federation of Labor, has announced the resignation of the two labor delegates from the deliberations of the Chamber of Commerce. The effect of this is to sever the last formal link between capital and labor here.

The employers, however, are complacent. They point with satisfaction to the fact that there are about five men for every available job. They say openly that they have launched their "open shop" campaign at a time calculated to be most effective.

Labor union officials, notwithstanding, point to the fact that the union memberships are virtually unaffected by the employers' offensive. "The employers are finding they can't force workers to abandon their union affiliations even in the face of starvation," they say.

The number of men idle in New Haven is about 20,000; in Bridgeport, 30,000, and in Waterbury 28,000. Conditions throughout the industrial sections of New England are very similar. Springfield, Fall River, Providence, Hartford and Manchester report thousands out of work.

In Danbury the hat manufacturers, generally speaking, are said to be signing up again with the unions in all cases where such agreements were in existence. The principal exception is the Hill and Loper factory, which recently announced it would conduct an "open shop." The union men quit, and an attempt is being made to fill their places with non-union men.

JUST A REHEARSAL.

The capitalists are on strike and they don't care a damn. Too bad we workers can't throw them into jail like they do us when we do likewise. History is repeating itself. What took place after the Civil War will take place here—a great financial disaster. The present is only a rehearsal for what will come in 1924-27.

C. Camell.

(Continued on page 2.)